

Lincoln County Leader.

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Saturday, December 23, 1882.

London, England, had a fire recently which consumed two acres of business houses and property to the amount of \$15,000,000.

The Senate military committee is opposed to re-insuring dismissed army officers, allowing back pay from the time of such dismissal. So are the people.

It is said the stockholders of the A. T. & S. F. will receive a dividend of 6 per cent., for the year 1882. Last year they got 5½ per cent. It pays to build and operate railroads in New Mexico.

Gov. Sheldon returned from Washington the 29th. He says there will be no doubt about having a session of the Territorial tinkers this winter, as there seemed to be no opposition to it in Congress.

New Mexico and Dakota are knocking hard at the doors of Congress for admission as States, with a fair prospect of getting in. Gov. Sheldon, who is now in Washington, is said to be helping in the work.

Secretary Teller has decided that in cases of appeal from the decisions of Registers and Recievers of Land offices to the Commissioner of the General Land office, it is not necessary to give notice to the adverse party.

Civilization seems to be advancing backward in Russia, of late. The police of St. Petersburg have orders to expel all Jews from the city who do not hold official permits to remain and no Jew is allowed to hold land in that despotism.

The A. T. & S. F. railroad bridge across the Rio Grande at Isleta, the largest bridge in the Territory, caught fire last Tuesday and seventeen spans of it burned. The railroad authorities were prompt in making the transfer.

The strictures in the last issue of the *Era* in regard to the LEADER are true in every respect, except as to facts. But then no one expects that paper to have an undue partiality for truth. For this kind of talk the LEADER will live to write the *Era's* epitaph.

The Denver *Inter Ocean* is one of the finest literary productions in the west, both as to matter and makeup. Just now it is turning a great deal of attention to New Mexico, which, with prophetic vision it recognizes as the rising young giant of the south-west. The three last successive issues have contained portraits of prominent men of our territory viz: Col. Wm. Biggs, Hon. W. T. Thornton, and Edgar Cayce, United States Commissioner of New Mexico. They now adorn the portrait gallery of the Leader sanctum.

The *New Era* makes the statement that Copper is arrayed in various hues—dark like soot or cinders, sometimes like broken steel, variegated as peacock feathers red as blood, green, blue, yellow, etc. It is indigenous in trap or slate, especially mica slate, where it is found in veins, or in limestone, where it is generally in deposits. A simple process, which all copper miners are familiar with, is a good test for copper equal to the blow pipe. It is to apply some of the pulverized ore made wet to the wick of a candle. If it contains copper a green flame will be the result.

PROGRESS OF THE PHYSIOLOGICAL PROSPECTOR.

He Examines Some of the Newspaper Middles.

Prof. O. S. Fowler has been examining the brain deposits of the newspaper men around Las Vegas, Albuquerque and Santa Fe. He pronounced them in a very imperfect state of development generally and in a few instances advised abandonment of the claims altogether, on account of meager cropings and poor soil and conditions. At the *Office* office he found some streaks of very fine ore mixed with large bodies of gangue and sarcasm. The *Gazette* prospect showed a soft carbonaceous formation of the gaseous period, with a cavity of assimilation in a cooling state. Over

Albuquerque the deposits were entirely different. Once the Indians had a claim in the same vicinity, or at least were in the neighborhood of the *Journal* office several locations had been made where the cropings resembled a bull's eye to a scree, and the development showed a small body of ore in the dump ready for the smelter, but the great bimetallogist did not see fit to tarry long here. Another prospect was examined but it did not show very favorable signs of mineral value, mostly, owing to the neighborhood of 300 ounces to the cubic foot. Here the surface protuberance will project forwardly to the exclusion of vein matter, and it was considered impracticable to work it. At Santa Fe, the Professor reported nothing but blanket formations and wet at that, and so will continue on down the Rio Grande until he reaches the newspaper offices in good time, and will wind up earlier on the Mesilla *Newspaper* of Newman of the *Zone Star*, all of which will be reported by this paper.

Misrepresenting Mines.

Those mining men who believe that misrepresentations are necessary when selling mining property should read the following carefully from the Idaho Springs *Advocate*: In speaking with a prominent mining man the other day in regard to certain misrepresentations of mining properties to capitalists, with which he was indirectly connected, he remarked that lying and scheming in mining negotiations were licensed and expected. We cannot agree with the gentleman on this point. Misrepresentations and lying are only licensed among thieves and not among honorable business men. Gentlemen never expect it from gentlemen. Honor should be regarded in mining transactions as well as in anything else. Nothing has caused to bring mining into disrepute more than this very one thing of misrepresenting mine to capital for the purpose of disposing of them at an exorbitant and unfair price. Capital invests, is disappointed, and discourages other capital in investing. Misleading thereby receives an enviable name among those upon whom the industry's prosperity is largely dependent, and thus a barrier confronts developments, that impedes the progress of legitimate mining—all in consequence of misrepresentation.

Vanderbilt is estimated to be worth \$300,000,000,000. If this amount was invested in fiddle strings, taffy, and bolegne sausage there would be enough of each to encircle the earth about sixteen times. Just think of the muscle and sweetness and satisfied hunger it would bring to the world on Christmas if thus invested. But then some men never care to make the world happy by such sets of benevolence. They would rather go and buy a dozen tin whistles for a dime and give them to a lot of wicked boys to blow around their poor neighbors door.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe road has elected A. E. Touzelin vice president of the company. The newly elected official has just resigned the vice presidency of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy.

ANOTHER MINING SUIT DECIDED.

Important to Claim Owners.

Judge Hallett recently decided a case in the United States District Court in regard to the forfeiture of right on claims, which will be of interest to all mine owners.

This was one of the numerous actions which have been brought by original locators against men who have assumed possession of mining properties, in case where the assessment work has been performed according to law.

The Edgar claim was located in Spanish Bar Mining district, Clear Creek County, in September 1860, by John Edgar, H. Coleman and R. E. Smith. The property was acquired by Edgar company, of Leadville, from Alfred Bateman in May, 1871. The company has for nearly ten years held possession, expending many thousands of dollars for development.

In June of last year A. P. Smith, made a relocation of the property, claiming the Edgar location had been forfeited.

The action in this case was for ejectment upon a petition of plaintiff against defendants' application for a patent.

The evidence showed that the plaintiff had annually from its purchase until 1878, spent considerable sums of money in the development of the ledge, but finding that in the imperfect and expensive process for reduction of ore then in vogue, it could not be made to pay, concluded to do only the amount of assessment work required by law.

The evidence further showed that the claim had been worked and the bonds of no value ever since it came into plaintiff's possession. Judge Hallett made the following judgment as were his words in his celebrated case of *Hall v. the Emperor Mining Company*:—that these facts constituted a possession sufficient to entitle the plaintiff to recover.

Decision of the Land Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 29, 1882
J. Walbridge, Esq., Baggs, Carbon Co., Montana.

Sir: Your communication dated the 6th instant, has been referred to this office. In reply to the inquiry therein contained, I have to state that the law imposes no limit upon the mining claims which a qualified person may locate. Eight persons are allowed to locate in one place claim 160 acres. The amount of work necessary to make the property fit for placement is left by Congress to be regulated by local laws and customs. In this case, I do not see the law in any present law the provision. Whether work performed or expended is made in excess, acting a rule before the purpose of working a placer claim, will apply to the amount of necessary labor, however that depends entirely upon local usage and customs.

You will understand that a location by eight persons of a 160 acres constitutes only one location or claim—not eight.

Respectfully,
M. MCPARLAND, Commissioner.

Ostrich Farming.

The Department of Agriculture is preparing to introduce a new industry, and for this purpose is sending the newspaper offices and leading grangers a small book with the above caption.

In the absence of our onion cruiser we turned the book over to the fashion editor who, after giving it a careful reading gathers the following general facts for the information of the public:

You first prepare your farm by spreading about six inches of sand over the entire surface, as the ostrich, like the yam, needs plenty of loose soil in which to root. In this they very much resemble the hog. Then run furrows through the land about six feet apart to allow room for the yam, and when the Commissioner of Agriculture sends you the seed-eggs drop 'em in carefully so as not to

crack the shells, and cover them with about four inches of soil and a six shooter to keep the boys from snatching them out too previously in the interest of medical science. It will take about three months for them to hatch and come out.

As soon as the young feathers appear on the surface give them a light mulching of corn meal, gum arable and red pepper to stimulate growth and make them curl. When the plants are about six inches high slip them over old plug hats over them so they will bleach and take on that ruffled appearance peculiar to the ostrich feather of commerce. Rubbing them across the grain once a day while growing, with a curry comb, will also heighten this effect. The variegated variety is considered the best to raise. When ripe they can be harvested with a pair of heavy forceps or blacksmith's tongs and should be placed on the market just before the Spring opening among the millinery shops. If the shops are closed when you arrive wait around until the proprietor opens up, or what is better go into the nearest saloon and put your feathers in soak until they are disposed of.

By following these instructions we have no doubt our farming community will find the cultivation of the ostrich both a pleasure and a profit, besides aiding the great Agricultural branch of our government in introducing a light and agreeable occupation.

The Committee on Education and Labor will report, five days, a bill to the House, in the spring, amounting to the sum of \$10,000,000 for the education to be distributed throughout the states and territories according to the ratio of money. Why not appropriate a large sum to aid the states and territories in the suppression of crime, or obnoxious diseases, or to the raising of broom handles. These things are matters of necessity, but are very much neglected in some sections of our country. A few millions of government aid might enable the states, where so little attention has hitherto been paid to these grave matters, to put them on a par with their more advanced neighbors provided the bulk of the money was distributed where the deficiency was the most glaring. Then we are taught that cleanliness is next to godliness, and how can we keep our public offices clean without brooms, and what is a broom without a handle? Consequently broom handles are a great public necessity. By all means let us have a few millions to aid in the propagation of broom handles, that they may be more generally diffused.

Secretary Teller has decided that lands in the units of railroad grants to which pre-emption or homestead claims capable of being forfeited, but attached at the time that the grant took effect, are excluded from the railroad grant and upon abandonment of such claims, lands do not lapse to the company but are restored to the public.

He decided that when persons by the law governing coal lands, let a contract with a third party to occupy and work such land he must be considered as having sold the same and cannot seize the patent. He decides further, that the erroneous entry in the register's office if ordered to be corrected should not prejudice the claims of applicants.

To our enemies and detractors, if any such there be—all live newspapers keep a few hanging around the street corners as advertisements—we say; "Gang yer ain gait," the world is wide enough for us all. To our patrons and friends, we heartily wish you a long life, a fat turkey and a Merry Christmas.

The *Mesilla News* is authority for the statement that Vermont capitalists will immediately build the Fort Worth & Rio Grande Narrow Gauge R. R.

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Practical Assayer,

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REFERENCES:

Prof. J. M. Robinson, Geologist and Mining Engineer T. & S. F. R. R. Co.

Prof. G. E. Patrick, Kansas State University, Lawrence, Kansas.

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